



## Water Quality & Fisheries

Water quality issues are one of the top resource concerns in the State of Florida as well a top priority of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The State of Florida has recently passed the Lake Okeechobee Protection Act (2000) and the Everglades Restoration Act (2000) as well as targeting watersheds in North and Central Florida for enhancement through restoration of wetlands and better land management. NRCS is playing an active role in helping the State of Florida meet established water quality goals.

Water quality has direct impacts not only on the quality of life, the economy and cultural well being of all our residents and visitors, but also on Florida's valuable freshwater and marine fisheries. Besides NRCS, there are multiple Federal and State agencies involved with water quality and fisheries issues and the references below are merely a partial list of those involved.

Water Quality Information	
<u>U.S. Department of Agriculture:</u>	
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	<a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/">http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/</a>
NRCS, FL	<a href="http://www.fl.nrcs.usda.gov/">http://www.fl.nrcs.usda.gov/</a>
NRCS, National Water & Climate Center	<a href="http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/">http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/</a>
NRCS, National Water Management Center	<a href="http://wmc.ar.nrcs.usda.gov/">http://wmc.ar.nrcs.usda.gov/</a>
<u>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</u>	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/ow/">http://www.epa.gov/ow/</a>
<u>U.S. Department of Defense:</u>	
U. S. Army, Corps of Engineers	<a href="http://www.usace.army.mil/">http://www.usace.army.mil/</a>
<u>U.S. Department of Interior:</u>	
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	<a href="http://www.usgs.gov/">http://www.usgs.gov/</a>
USGS, Water Resources of the United States	<a href="http://water.usgs.gov/">http://water.usgs.gov/</a>
USGS, Water Resources of Florida	<a href="http://fl.water.usgs.gov/">http://fl.water.usgs.gov/</a>
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	<a href="http://contaminants.fws.gov/Issues/WaterQuality.cfm">http://contaminants.fws.gov/Issues/WaterQuality.cfm</a>
<u>State of Florida:</u>	
Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)	<a href="http://www.dep.state.fl.us/default.htm">http://www.dep.state.fl.us/default.htm</a>
DEP, Water Resource Management	<a href="http://www8.myflorida.com/water/default.htm">http://www8.myflorida.com/water/default.htm</a>
DEP, Florida Water Management Districts	<a href="http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/watman/">http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/watman/</a>
Florida Department of Health	<a href="http://www.doh.state.fl.us/">http://www.doh.state.fl.us/</a>
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	<a href="http://floridaconservation.org/">http://floridaconservation.org/</a>

<b>Fisheries Information</b>	
<u>U.S. Department of Interior:</u>	
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	<a href="http://fisheries.fws.gov/">http://fisheries.fws.gov/</a>
<u>U.S. Department of Commerce:</u>	
National Marine Fisheries Service	<a href="http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/">http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/</a>
<u>State of Florida:</u>	
Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission	<a href="http://floridaconservation.org/">http://floridaconservation.org/</a>
- Marine Fisheries	<a href="http://floridamarine.org/">http://floridamarine.org/</a>
- Freshwater Fisheries	<a href="http://floridafisheries.com/Fishes/index.html">http://floridafisheries.com/Fishes/index.html</a>